



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Tsuyoshi Masuda, et al.)Examiner
Serial No.: 10/728,712)Nordmeyer, Patricia L.
Filed: 12/05/2003)Art Unit
For: RUNNABLE SPLICE)1772
July 2006

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Mail Stop RCE
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

In response to a final Office Action mailed April 26, 2006, please consider the following arguments in conjunction with an accompanying Request for Continued Examination (RCE).